Gender Affirming Care

A programme by WellSouth

Last updated: 26/08/2026

Intended Purpose

This programme supports our District alignment to national Gender Affirming Care guidelines and a shift to the informed consent model for Gender Affirming Hormone Therapy (GAHT) initiation. It enables Gender affirming care to be offered in the community, addresses barriers to care for transgender and non-binary patients while recognising clinicians time required for professional development and extended consults. The programme supports primary care GAHT prescribers who offer informed consent consults, including initiation of GAHT or as part of a referral for GAC surgery. Funding is intended for a series of extended consults for GAHT initiation or for consults related to GAC surgery. It is not intended for long term management once GAHT has been initiated, or for general health needs of transgender and non-binary patients.

HealthPathways Link: https://southern.communityhealthpathways.org/610143.htm

Eligibility

- Patients 18 years and over
- Eligible for funded health care and live in the Southern District.

Exclusions

- Requests from geographical areas outside of the Southern District

Key Information

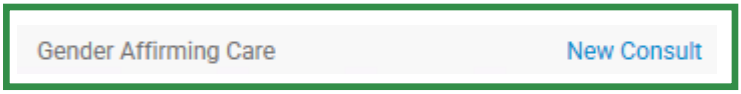
- **Only** GAHT prescribing GPs and NPs who participated in the national Health NZ GAHT prescriber training or equivalent training and are connected to the national GAHT prescribers peer group can access this funding; there will be an initial accreditation assessment to determine eligibility.
- Funding is clinician specific:
  - If you wish to access funding, you will require an initial accreditation discussion with clinical leads: please email gaht@qtopia.org.nz
  - If you are a GAHT prescriber and work in multiple practices, please email GenderAffirmingCare@wellsouth.org.nz
- Funding consists of two different claims types:
  - GAHT prescribers providing this care to patients **enrolled in their practice**
  - Experienced GAHT prescribers **accepting referrals from other practices**.
- Claims will be funded as a flat fee, with a limit of one claim, per patient, per year. There is flexibility in how the care is provided and what it covers, but generally it would be expected to cover: 2-5 consults with the prescriber, any associated nursing time (information collection, medication administration) and admin time associated with the process, including referrals.
- To access funding, **each new patient** requires a referral via ERMS to General Practice – Gender Affirming Care Referral – WellSouth PHO.

If you have a patient who is keen to explore GAHT and you do not have capacity or are not currently an accredited provider, please email GenderAffirmingCare@wellsouth.org.nz and we can discuss currently available options with you. We hope to open the referral pathway to non-accredited prescribers in the near future. Please ensure you have consented your patient to share information with another provider as appropriate and their preference for how to be contacted.

If the clinician criteria listed are met, then claiming is available to all Southern District general practices, irrespective of PHO affiliation, including those non general practice health services who employ a GAHT prescribing GP or NP and provide regular care to their patients, even if they do not enrol them.

Claiming

Claiming is via the WellSouth PHN portal.



Service codes for your PMS

Code	Amount (incl. GST)	Description
WPGAC1	$396.75	GAC Enrolled
WPGAC2	$655.50	GAC Referred

Payment Rates (excl. GST)

$345.00 + GST	Enrolled at practice
$570 + GST	Referred from another organisation

Can a co-payment be charged?

No co-payment can be charged.

When does the claim need to be completed?

Claiming must be completed within 2 months of treatment.

If your PMS is aligned to the WellSouth Clinical BCTIs, please email the relevant address below with your new Account Internal ID.

- practicenetwork@wellsouth.org.nz
- thepho-enquiries@wellsouth.org.nz
- communitycare-enquiries@wellsouth.org.nz
- arataki-enquiries@wellsouth.org.nz

For more information about training or to express interest in becoming a prescriber, please email GenderAffirmingCare@wellsouth.org.nz